

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1640
(To be answered on the 20th December 2018)**

GROWTH OF AIR TRAFFIC PASSENGER

1640. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that India was the 3rd global flyers with almost 16.15 crore air passengers during 2017 in comparison to 13.1 crore in 2016, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Civil Aviation sector is in huge loss with cash crunch and facing severe financial instability;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has undertaken any review/survey to ascertain the reasons for the bad debt and poor performance of the section; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the proposal of the Government to revive and strengthen the aviation sector to become global number one?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Total number of passengers for the year 2016 and 2017 (January-December) is attached at Annexure-1.

(b) to (d): No such study has been carried out by the Government. However, with a view to promote the growth of Indian Aviation sector in a significant manner, the Government has released the National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016 on 15.06.2016. The aim of the Government is to provide an ecosystem for the harmonised growth of various aviation subsectors, i.e. Airlines, Airports, Cargo, Maintenance Repairs and Overhaul services (MRO), General Aviation, Aerospace Manufacturing, Skill Development, etc. In compliance of NCAP-2016, broad steps taken are as under:

- i) Introduction of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) with an aim to facilitate/stimulate Regional air connectivity by making it affordable.**
- ii) Revival of un-served or under-served routes under RCS - UDAN.**

- iii) Introduction of a new Category 'Schedule Commuter Operator' under Commercial Air Transport Operations.
- iv) Rationalization of Category-I routes under Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) on the basis of criteria given in NCAP 2016.
- v) The requirement for 5/20 is modified and all airlines can commence international operations provided that they deploy 20 aircraft or 20% of total capacity (in terms of average number of seats on all departure put together) whichever is higher for domestic operations.
- vi) Liberalization of domestic code share points in India within the framework of Air Service Agreements (ASA). With a view to aid in modernization of the existing airports to establish a high standard and help ease the pressure on the existing airports, 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under automatic route has now been allowed in Brownfield Airport projects. This move would also serve in further developing the domestic aviation infrastructure. Further, FDI limit for Scheduled Air Transport Service/ Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline has been raised from 49% to 100%, with FDI up to 49% permitted under automatic route and FDI beyond 49% through Government approval. For Non-Resident Indians (NRI's), 100% FDI will continue to be allowed under automatic route. However, foreign airlines would continue to be allowed to invest in capital of Indian companies operating scheduled and non-scheduled air transport services up to the limit of 49% of their paid up capital and subject to the laid down conditions in the existing policy. Increasing the FDI limit for these aviation services shall not only encourage competition by lowering prices but shall also accord choice to consumers.

ANNEXURE-1

STATEMENT FOR LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1640 TO BE ANSWERED
ON 20-12- 2018

PASSENGERS (Crore)

	2016 (JAN-DEC)	2017 (JAN-DEC)
SCHEDULED DOMESTIC PASSENGERS	9.95	11.68
SCHEDULED INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS*	5.37	5.89
TOTAL SCHEDULED PASSENGERS	15.32	17.57
* International Passengers include the passengers carried by Scheduled Domestic and Foreign carriers to and from Indian Territory		